



Docket No.: M1885.0051/P051

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Roberto Baruchello et al.

Confirmation No.: 2087

Application No.: 10/529,140

Filed: March 24, 2005

Group Art Unit: 2859

For: TOUCH PROBE COMPRISING A  
SWITCH WITH CONTACTS  
PROTECTED BY INERT GAS

Examiner: Yaritza Guadalupe

**APPLICANTS' COMMENTS ON EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR  
ALLOWANCE**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:


Applicants have reviewed the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance mailed on August 23, 2006, and wish to submit the following remarks. The Statement quotes several limitations from independent claim 1 as reasons for allowance of claims 1-15. Initially, Applicants wish to point out that the "characterized in that the guide elements" language was deleted from claim 1 in a Preliminary Amendment filed with the application. Further, Applicants wish to point out that independent claim 1 recites other limitations which, in combination with the limitations noted by the Statement, render the claim allowable. In addition, dependent claims 2-15 recite further limitations which, in combination with those of the base claim, render the dependent claims allowable.

Likewise, the Statement quotes several limitations from independent claims 16 and 18 as reasons for allowance of claims 16 and 17, and 18-20. Applicants wish to point out that independent claims 16 and 18 recite other limitations which, in combination with the limitations noted by the Statement, render the independent claims allowable. And, dependent claims 17, 19 and 20 recite further limitations which, in combination with those of their base claims, render the dependent claims allowable.

Otherwise, Applicants agree with the Examiner that the claims distinguish over the prior art.

Dated: November 22, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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